Scott. H-48—33.701—27-11-23.

Revenue (1924) Department.

Famine SERIES.

G.O. No. 124

DATED 25-1-24

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine (Bellary) - Bellary Taluk - Kolur test work -

Settlement Commissioner's notes of inspection.

REVENUE **DEPARTMENT.**

O.F.--

N.K.

CURRENT No. RE[illegible] 178

Received ..... 19 Registered 19

RD 19.1.24.

Subject

Famine- Bellary district- Bellary taluk- Kolur test work- Notes of inspection- Submitted.

ENCLOSURES.
No. .....
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Mis. No. 111.

Station Madras., *Dated the* 18th January 1924. 19

From

S. Wadsworth Esq.,I.C.S.,
Secretary,
~~The Board of Revenue,~~ Land Revenue. ~~Revenue Settlement, etc. Separate Revenue.~~

N. Macmichael Esq., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Land Rev., & Settlement.

Resolution
~~Reference.~~

The Board submits to Government the accompanying notes of the inspection made by the Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement of the test work started near Kolur village in the Bellary taluk.

(True Extract)

A Gopalan
for Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Dept., with notes of inspection.
Copy to the Collector of Bellary with notes of inspection.

J.G./18. 18/1.24

3

Inspection notes - Kolur test works.

The workers are at present engaged in collecting and breaking metal at the 10th mile of the Bellary-Siruguppa road. The site has been well-chosen; there is a good supply of drinking water, and there is very fair natural shade along the road side for the workers who are breaking metal. There is sufficient water in the vanka which crosses the road between mile stones 10 and 11 for spreading and consolidating if the work is converted into a relief work. If this is ordered immediate steps should be taken to begin the work of spreading and consolidation; for, however expensive it may be to do this work in the hot weather, it is at all events more economical than employing the workers indefinitely in breaking metal which will never be spread.

2. The organisation and discipline on the work are good. Previous to my inspection the task imposed was the standard task, i.e. 25 per cent of the ordinary task; the proper task for stone-breaking on a test work is 80 per cent of the ordinary task - Vide section 49 (a) of the Famine Code. The latest correction slip to this section had not been received by the officers in charge. The lead allowed at the time of my inspection was 1000 yards, but many coolies could be seen from my tent gathering metal within 500 yards of the road side. There is a sufficient supply of tools on the spot.

3. The attendance since the opening of the work is given below:--

Date. 1	Men. 2	Women. 3	Children. 4	Total. 5
7-1-1924	84	191	31	306
8 ,,	114	290	52	456
9 ,,	111	295	57	463
10 ,,	137	333	60	530
11 ,,		Rest day		
12 ,,	159	391	77	627
13 ,,	166	389	73	628
14 ,,	164	393	76	633
15 ,,	167	382	79	628

For the last 4 days the attendance has been practically stationary, most of the workers being women. Many of the men

men are reported to have gone to the mines and elsewhere for work, but, as was explained to me, "they will all return as soon as famine works are opened". The number of gangs has increased from 7 to 12, the total number for the 8 days being 79. Of these 32 have turned out the full task, 20, 90 per cent, and 12, 80 per cent of the task. It must be noticed, however, that today (15-1-24) when the lead was more accurately fixed only 1 gang turned out the full task, 1, 90 per cent, 2 80 per cent, 2 60 per cent. 2 40 per cent and 3 only 30 per cent.

4. Whilst it is satisfactory that the Collector has lost no time in organizing non-official relief agency, it was unfortunate that the Famine Relief Committee selected this spot for a private kitchen which was opened on 12th January 1924 in disregard of the fundamental principle that a test work is not intended for the relief but to test the existence of distress. The opening of the kitchen cannot have failed to make the works more attractive to the workers. The situation was explained to some of the members of the Committee yesterday morning during the visit of the Hon'ble the Revenue Member, and I understand that they have decided not to admit any dependents of workers in future.

5. Most of the workers come from villages distant 3 miles or less from the camp, Kolur itself contributing 236 (on 13-1-24). From Kurugode, the largest village in the neighbourhood with a population of 4000, which is 6½ miles from the camp, only 2 workers came on 13-1-24.

6. There are no signs of depression amongst the workers: On the contrary, the general tone is very cheerful, and from my tent frquent sounds of singing and laughing are heard. It should be possible by the beginning of next week to decide whether it is necessary to open relief works in the taluk.

18.1.24

Scott. II-1♦ (a)—48,962—2-2-22. (6)

Rev. DEPARTMENT

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C. No. 173 B/24, From the Board of Res, No 111, dated 18.1.24 192 .

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23/24

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25 JAN 1924

To

The Board of Res (Lr Stock)

P.W.D and

24/1/24

24/1/24.